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New NAACO Board Takes Reign

Susan Durkee of Concordia University to Serve as President

PRINCETON JUNCTION, NJ – August 9, 2012 – The North American Association of Commencement Officers (NAACO) has announced its new Board of Directors for the 2012-2013 term, with Susan Durkee, Office Technology Analyst at Concordia University, serving as President.

Durkee has been involved with convocation for more than 25 years. She is responsible for the technical operations at convocation and currently focuses on the redevelopment of the systems used including assessing eligibility and graduating students. This encompasses everything from the capturing of students who intend to graduate right up to the production of the diplomas and the convocation booklet.

“I am so honored to serve this organization as President,” said Durkee. “I look forward to working with my fellow Board members to take this organization to the next level and continue our mission of being the main source of information for commencement and convocation officers.”

Durkee succeeds Doug Bolin, Artistic Director and Director of Operations, Office of Relationship Management and University Events at The University of Texas at Austin who will serve as Past President. Linda Bekerian, Commencement Operations Manager at Northeastern University, will serve as President-Elect; Bonnie Van Buskirk, Administrative Officer, Office of the President at Dalhousie University, will serve as Secretary and Christine Deehan, Director of University Events at Rowan University, will serve the association as Treasurer.

NAACO welcomes the following new and returning directors at large: Sheelagh Atkinson, Manager, Convocation and Special Projects, Office of University Events and Community Relations at York University; Lois Ferguson, Assistant to the Office of the Provost for Commencement and Events at Baylor University and Lisa Walker, Marketing and Events Manager, University of Washington, Bothell.

For more information on NAACO, visit www.naaco.org.

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About NAACO

Founded in 2001, the North American Association of Commencement Officers (NAACO) is a professional association of commencement and convocation officers from colleges and universities throughout North America. NAACO is dedicated to providing a community structure for commencement professionals to exchange ideas, share traditions, explore new opportunities and connect with colleagues from around the world who share the monumental responsibility of producing commencements. For more information, visit www.naaco.org.